

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

NOV 14 2001

David T. Read Acting Director Health Assessment Policy Staff, CDER Food and Drug Administration 1451 Rockville Pike, HFD-7 Rockville, MD 20852

Dear Mr. Read:

Transmitted herewith is a copy of the application for patent term extension of U.S. Patent No. Re. 34,878. The application was filed on February 14, 2001, under 35 U.S.C. § 156.

The patent claims a product that was subject to regulatory review under the Federal Food, Drug and Cosmetic Act. Subject to final review, the subject patent is considered to be eligible for patent term restoration. Thus, a determination by your office of the applicable regulatory review period is necessary. Accordingly, notice and a copy of the application are provided pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 156(d)(2)(A).

Inquiries regarding this communication should be directed to the undersigned at (703) 306-3159 (telephone) or (703)872-9411 (facsimile).

Karin Tyson

Senior Legal Advisor

Office of Patent Legal Administration Office of the Deputy Commissioner for Patent Examination Policy

cc:

Thomas Hoxie

Novartis Pharmaceuticals Corp. Patent and Trademark Dept. 564 Morris Ave. Summit NJ 07901-1027

Re: Starlix

Docket No. 01E-0367

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